



**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**  
**VA Central California Healthcare System**  
**2615 East Clinton Avenue**  
**Fresno CA 93703-2286**

**PRESS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
February 11, 2014

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**VA Honors Veterans during National Salute**

FRESNO - VA Central California Healthcare System will host the National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans, February 12 – 14. This 3 day event will honor Veteran patients and will include a variety of activities such as breakfast with local personalities, dignitaries and elected officials, presentations by Army National Guard Soldiers to Veterans and visits from various community Veteran Service Organizations.

The National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans is a national program that encourages all Americans to visit and volunteer at VA medical centers and to send letters of thanks or Valentine Cards to those who have served our nation. The annual VA National Salute program began in 1978 and is traditionally held the week of Valentine's Day, kicking off with VA's popular Valentines for Vets program. Individuals, Veterans' groups, military personnel, civic organizations, businesses, schools, local media, celebrities and sports stars traditionally deliver valentines or visit the more than 98,000 Veterans of the U.S. armed services who are cared for every day in VA medical facilities, outpatient clinics, domiciliaries, and community living centers.

While the National Salute kicks off in mid-February, Americans have the chance to show their appreciation to Veterans all year by volunteering their time or donating to VA medical facilities throughout the year. No medical experience is necessary and volunteers are encouraged to share ideas on how they would like to 'give back' using their unique skills. To find opportunities or for more information on the week's events, call the VA Central California Health Care System Voluntary Services at (559) 228-5364. Take every day to thank a Veteran!

Honor a Vet today. Find your local VA medical facility at [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov). Volunteer at [www.volunteer.va.gov](http://www.volunteer.va.gov).

National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

What: **Dignitaries and elected official visit**

When: Wednesday, February 12, 2014

9:30 am Breakfast and Reception

10:00 am Director Welcome

10:45 Visit Inpatients

Where: Community Living Center

2615 East Clinton Avenue, Fresno, CA 93703

What: **Local Personalities**

When: Thursday, February 13, 2014

9:30 am Breakfast Reception

10:00 am Welcome

10:45 Visit Inpatient

Where: Community Living Center

2615 East Clinton Avenue, Fresno, CA 93703

What: **Active/Guard/Reserve Military and Veteran Service Organizations**

When: Friday, February 14, 2014

10:00 am Director Welcome

10:10 am Visit CLC residents

10:45 Visit Inpatients

11:00 am Veterans of Foreign Wars Ladies Auxiliary to provide luncheon

Where: Community Living Center

2615 East Clinton Avenue, Fresno, CA 93703

***Note: This event is open to media. For advanced information, please contact  
Sheryl Grubb at: (559) 228-5308, (559) 836-8731 or email [Sheryl.grubb@va.gov](mailto:Sheryl.grubb@va.gov).***

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